

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : **10/623,051** Confirmation No.: **3961**  
Applicant(s) : **MICHAEL, Günther et al.**  
Filed : **07/18/2003**  
TC/A.U. : **1712**  
Examiner : **METZMAIER, Daniel S.**  
Title : **Hydrophobic Silica**

Docket No. : **032301.0901**  
Customer No. : **25461**

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**SUBMISSION OF DECLARATION**

On November 29, 2006, Applicants filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and an Amendment Accompanying Request for Continued Examination in the instant application. Attached to said Amendment was an unsigned copy of the Declaration of Günther Michael. Applicants submit herewith the executed Declaration.

It is respectfully requested that the attached Declaration be accepted by the Examiner in the above-identified patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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